



# Crescent Hills

— Civic Association —

## OFFICERS

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### Newsletter:

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## COMMITTEE CHAIRS

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### Membership

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### Park

Jan Kukucka: 412-793-2074  
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### Welcome

Doris Mierwald: 412-793-2616  
doraymi@verizon.net



### Letter From The President

Last year at this time we were inviting residents to attend the Civic Association's annual salad luncheon held on Martin Luther King Day at Mt. Hope Church. That tradition, of course, is not possible this year. I am inserting a picture of a salad for nostalgic purposes and to whet your appetite for next year and quotes from Martin Luther King to help us through these extraordinary times.

*Only in the darkness can you see the stars.*

*If I cannot do great things,  
I can do small things in a great way.*

*The ultimate weakness of violence is that  
it is a descending spiral, begetting the  
very thing it seeks to destroy.*

**Martin Luther King, Jr.**



Hope for a return to normal social activities certainly is on the horizon. After we all get our vaccinations, we should be able to plan again for the Memorial Day Picnic at the park. There we can bask in the glory of socialization, as well as eat hot dogs and hamburgers. We certainly can have a pre-order plant sale in May as we did last year. That proved so profitable and efficient, we may continue that type of sale even after Covid leaves town. Starting this May, we will bring back the very popular Reading in the Park program led by teacher Lauren Javens. Here are some sample books. Watch for the April newsletter to find out how to reserve your spot at this Saturday morning event. As for now, we will return to publishing four newsletters a year and this first one will be devoted to our combined Membership and Park Fund Drives.



CHCA needs a newsletter editor. If you have publishing software and want to make a major contribution to this organization by volunteering, you will be so welcomed.



## Membership & Park Fund

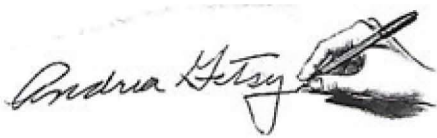
Covid certainly crimped our membership list last year and greatly reduced park donations. While the Civic Association did not sponsor any events, we remain responsible for all the park expenses. For those of you who might not know, Crescent Hills owns its own park located at 141 Sycamore Drive. This is a fabulous feature of your neighborhood. Its very existence adds value to your property. It is 1-1/2 acres of beautiful green space and gardens, walking path (7 laps = 1 mile), a sports court for tennis and street hockey, a semi-fenced in toddler area, a children's painted play court, and a fabulous big shelter. This Covid year, many more people used the park than usual as it was a place of refuge. But the park is private property, owned by CHCA and that means we pay for its maintenance (grass, shrubs, tree cutting) and upkeep (painting, gravel, repairs). We pay taxes, water, insurance, and port-a-potty services. The cost for all of this has risen to \$5,600 a year. Last year's fund drive was short \$1,725! Luckily we had a reserve fund. Most of the park care is provided by Ed Blazina and Jan Kukučka who, despite being employed full time, have managed the park for two decades. Without their care, and the volunteers who step up to help paint, spread gravel, and pull weeds, this park would cost way more. We know this is a hard time for a lot of folks. But for those of you who can help, we hope you will. Our reserve fund is disappearing fast. If you cannot help financially, please volunteer for the Park Committee. Perhaps we can keep the costs down with volunteer work. See the Membership and Park Donation form in this letter and join us in keeping Crescent Hills a great place to live. Please help!

2020 PARK EXPENSE

\$5,600

2020 PARK INCOME

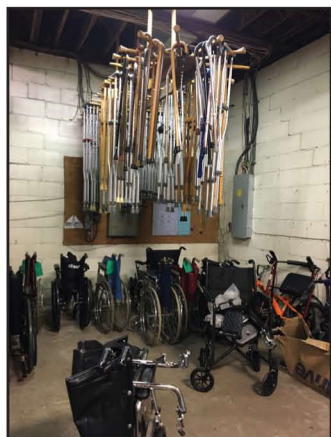
\$3,875



Penn Hills Service Association  
2529 Main Street, Penn Hills,  
412-798-9449

The service association needs help with food distribution. The work involves packing and handing out boxes of food to Penn Hills residents in need. Each session is only two hours. You can volunteer weekly, monthly, or whenever you can. Six Crescent Hills residents already are on a Friday afternoon team. The association gives out food most days of the week.

The Service Association is a good source for medical equipment. They have crutches, canes, walkers, wheelchairs, bathroom aides, and even hospital beds. If you have such a need call the association to arrange for pickup.



LITTER—Judy Conroy chcalitter@gmail.com

Even with the pandemic in 2020, the Litter Committee was quite active. We completed 4 road clean ups, giving Lime Hollow a good cleaning which was made possible with the road construction closure. The improvements to Lime Hollow will make it safer to clean along the guard rails, although the road shoulders have become a bit narrower. In keeping with our yearly schedule of road clean ups, I am listing the dates for 2021 below. Please mark your calendars and join us when your schedule permits. We will begin with the Saturday after Earth Day, scheduling a clean-up for June, August and October. I hope you will consider dropping by and lending a hand -- I would love to see some new faces on our clean up days.

### 2021 Litter Clean Ups Days

April 24, June 19, August 21 and October 16

Meet at: Crescent Hills Park, 7:45 a.m.

Bags and Gloves will be distributed.

Our designated roads are:

Frankstown Rd. from the Old Municipal Building to Crestview

Lime Hollow Rd. from Frankstown Rd. to Coal Hollow.

THANK YOU to ALL who are keeping our neighborhood clean on a daily basis. I notice neighbors picking up litter when they are out for their walks. It is nice to see the commitment of so many to keep our neighborhood presentable. It is noticed and appreciated!!!!



### SINCERE CONDOLENCES TO THE FAMILIES OF:

Jamie Esposito—46, brother of Juleen Madero of Earlwood Rd. James owned his own tree cutting business and was often seen working on Crescent Hills trees.

Marion Limegrover, 89—former long-time resident of Glenfield Drive.

Clark Hamilton, 91 And Anne Hamilton—Clark and his wife Ann lived and raised their family on Crescent Hills Road before retiring to Fort Myers, Florida. They passed away a few days apart.

### GET WELL WISHES TO:

Jan Yanko of Glenfield Dr., Nancy Orman of Earlwood Rd.,  
Debbie McKeag of Earlwood Rd., Mary Lois Verrilla, formerly of  
Springdale Rd.





Crescent Hills Rd.  
108 – Sean Vaksman & Lauren Kowalski  
129 – Tina Larkin  
143 – Jackie & Camden Woodward  
159 – Abbe Dirling

Garlow Drive  
117 – Yotam Hechtlinger  
135 – Horton Miles  
200 – Justin Francart & Emily Falce

Springdale Drive  
408 – Maya Pendleton  
421 – Leslie Johnson  
514 – Tony Battles & Pamela Hall

Valeview Drive  
114 – Michael Kennedy Shaw & Rachel

Earlwood Rd.  
105 – Jennifer Goss & Francis Bruner Jr  
110 – Ralph & Keiko West  
115 – Caroline & Jessica Evans  
120 – Stefan Lingenfelter & Sarah Altomari  
203 – Jessica Dufour

Crestview  
234 – Melissa Pollock & Joseph Hankins-Roberto

Spring Grove Rd.  
112 – Samantha Martin  
113 – Megan McDonald & Rob Jones  
144 – Moldir Ibraiyмова  
163 – Tanner Stull & Colby Keim  
185 – Jennifer Smith

Welcome neighbors. We are glad you chose Crescent Hills as your home. CHCA has been in existence for 86 years. While the civic association suspended its welcome program and other activities during Covid, our Welcome Co-Chair, Doris Mierwald, has been mailing letters to all new residents with information about the neighborhood. We hope you will join us in our mission to keeping this community strong through communication, volunteerism, and socialization. As you will see in this newsletter, even in the pandemic, we have found ways to remain active. Visit our website CH-CA.org and Facebook page to learn about your neighborhood. Please use the membership form in this letter to join. If you are not receiving the newsletter by email, you missed a whole year's worth of information. Please go to CH-CA.org and provide your email address.

–CHCA's Corresponding Secretary, Samantha Moik, and husband Alex Smedberg will soon be moving from Spring Grove Road to Garlow Drive. Looks like they like Crescent Hills. The feeling is mutual.

### Co-Vid Update

PA vaccinations currently in Phase 1A –

There are 4 phases.

For up to date information go to:

<https://www.alleghenycounty.us/Health-Department/Resources/COVID-19/COVID-19.aspx> or call 1-877-PA-HEALTH (1-877-724-3258)

### Veterans

Veterans, 75 and older, who are enrolled in and receiving care in the VA care system may be able to receive Covid vaccinations now. Check with the Veterans Hospital in Oakland if vaccine is still available.

### Mask Efficacy

An article in the Dec. 31 issue of The Week reported a story of two hairstylists in Missouri who unknowingly worked for a week while infected with Covid. The hairstylists wore masks as did their 139 clients. No customer developed signs of Covid. Of the 67 clients who volunteered to be tested, all received negative results.—Wear a mask

### Seniors - Allegheny County Area Agency on Aging (AAA)

The agency assists county residents 60 years of age and older to live safe, healthy and, when possible, independent lives. For information Call 412-350-5460

Seniors can enroll in the Friendly Caller Program to be matched with a Senior Companion who will call once or twice a week to touch base.

### Seniors

The Penn Hills Senior Service Center is closed for daily activities however it is distributing frozen Home Delivered Meals provided by Allegheny County to homebound seniors in Penn Hills. If you know of a senior who would benefit, call 412-244-3408. In addition, the Center is distributing Grab-n-Go frozen meals, also provided by the county, and bag lunches provided by Eat-N-Park through an organization called A Second Chance, Inc. The Grab-n-Go meals are available daily, the bagged lunches are available on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. If you are a senior, have transportation and would like to begin receiving any of these meals, call the Center at 412-244-3407 to be put on the list.

While the Senior Center is not open to the general public, staff will return your call.

There are crafts and exercise programs available at other sites. If you would like more information and the links to these sites, or would like to be put on the email distribution list for the Senior Scenes newsletters, email the Senior Center's director, Phyllis Paciulli, at [ppaciulli@pennhills.org](mailto:ppaciulli@pennhills.org).

## PARK REPORT – Jan Kukucka

The Crescent Hills Park was well used this year as good weather and a desire to get out-of-the-house brought folks looking for a change of pace. Some unglamorous tasks helped prepare the park for use, like weeding, debris removal, port-a-potty placement and grass cutting. After that, a slew of maintenance and improvement projects were done. A combination of pro's (Robert Shaner), donors (Mike Hopf and PH Rotary) and volunteers (Jan Kukucka; Ed Blazina; Nick Kornick; Juleen, Ashley and Myla Madera; Lyon Zeibak; Judy Conroy; Linda Bluemle, Rebecca Williams, Andrea Getsy and Nandry Smith) completed the following.



### To improve safety:

- Signs were placed to reduce misuse and vandalism
- Kids' court was power-washed and sealed
- 10 yards of playground mulch was spread
- Bars on climbing fort were replaced
- Cameras were installed

### To improve appearance:

- Annuals were planted
- 4 yards of garden mulch was placed
- Play equipment and benches were painted

### To improve use:

- Kids court was repainted
- 8 tons of 1B limestone was spread in the parking lot
- 2 new hockey nets
- New park bench
- The outhouse was converted to storage
- Tennis court lines were repainted
- A weekly, 5-month long story-time for young children

## PARK FUND & MEMBERSHIP DRIVE - 2021

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (Home) \_\_\_\_\_ (Cell) \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Park Volunteer

Litter Volunteer

Make one check payable to Crescent Hills Civic Association and mail to Crescent Hills Civic Association, P.O. Bx 17055, Penn Hills Branch, Pittsburgh, PA 15235.

Thank you for your support.

Membership: \_\_\_\_\_ \$15

Park Donation: \_\_\_\_\_ \$35 \_\_\_\_\_ \$50 \_\_\_\_\_ Other

Total Membership + Park Donation: \_\_\_\_\_